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Sent: Fri, 18 Aug 2017 12:23:14 -0400 (EDT)
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Subject: FW: don't blame surgeons

Hmm.. Haven't read the study, but prescribing opioids in unnecessary quantities after surgery still leads to availability of opioids in the community. May not be the person that it was prescribed but nevertheless available to someone to "try" and lead to abuse of the drug.
Sharon

From: Eddy, Julie
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 11:11 AM
To: Hartman, Sharon; Brad Tallamy
Subject: don't blame surgeons

Los Angeles Times: Don't Blame The Surgeons: Long-Term Opioid Use Rarely Starts With Surgery, Study Finds

Don't blame the nation's surgeons for an opiate-abuse crisis that now claims 142 lives daily in the United States. New research suggests that patients leaving the hospital after surgeries or inpatient procedures are rarely the ones whose long-term opioid use started with a doctor's prescription. Instead, the patients who most frequently go on to use opioid medications for six months or more got their first prescription for some sort of back pain, or for pain described in medical code as "other ill-defined conditions," according to a research letter published Wednesday in the journal JAMA Surgery. (Healy, 8/17)

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